

(4-300.)

HOMESTEAD PROOF—TESTIMONY OF WITNESS.

Jerome S. Rice, being called as witness in support of the Homestead entry of 1165-9 for N. E. 4 Sec 20, T. 20, R. 37, testifies as follows:

Question 1.—What is your name, age, and post-office address?
 Answer. Jerome S. Rice — 54 — Norristown, Nebr.
 Ques. 2.—Are you well acquainted with the claimant in this case and the land embraced in his claim?
 Ans. Yes — Yes.
 Ques. 3.—Is said tract within the limits of an incorporated town or selected site of a city or town, or used in any way for trade or business?
 Ans. No. No. No.
 Ques. 4.—State specifically the character of this land—whether it is timber, prairie, grazing, farming, coal, or mineral land.
 Ans. Prairie, farming and grazing lands.
 Ques. 5.—When did claimant settle upon the homestead and at what date did he establish actual residence thereon?
 Ans. In February, 1887. February 1887.

Ques. 6.—Have claimant and family resided continuously on the homestead since first establishing residence thereon? (If settler is unmarried, state the fact.)
 Ans. Yes, excepting short periods claimant was away at work.

Ques. 7.—For what period or periods has the settler been absent from the land since making settlement, and for what purpose; and if temporarily absent, did claimant's family reside upon and cultivate the land during such absence?
 Ans. Absent in 1891—5 months; 1891 and 1892—5 months Yes.

Ques. 8.—How much of the homestead has the settler cultivated and for how many seasons did he raise crops thereon?
 Ans. 5-59 acres excepting in 1891; none cultivated that year.

Ques. 9.—What improvements are on the land and what is their value?
 Ans. House \$130⁰⁰, stable \$30⁰⁰, well \$75⁰⁰, fencing and breaking \$45⁰⁰, Total value, \$320⁰⁰

Ques. 10.—Are there any indications of coal, salines, or minerals of any kind on the homestead? (If so, describe what they are, and state whether the land is more valuable for agricultural than for mineral purposes).
 Ans. No indications.

Ques. 11.—Has the claimant mortgaged, sold, or contracted to sell, any portion of said homestead?
 Ans. Not to my knowledge.

Ques. 12.—Are you interested in this claim; and do you think the settler has acted in entire good faith in perfecting this entry?
 Ans. No. Yes.

Jerome S. Rice

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing testimony was read to the witness before being subscribed, and was sworn to before me this 9th day of September 1892

[SEE NOTE ON FOURTH PAGE.]

S. B. Shumway
County Judge

(The testimony of witnesses must be taken at the same time and place, and before the same officer as claimant's final affidavit. The answers must be full and complete to each and every question asked, and officers taking testimony will be expected to make no mistakes in dates, description of land, or otherwise.)